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# STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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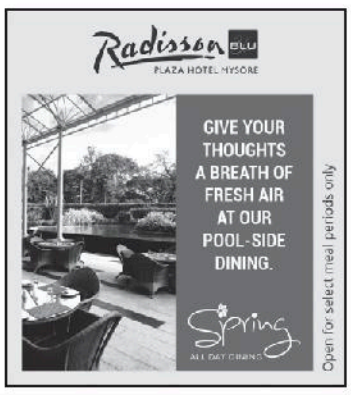
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# MUDA's upgraded Kabini water project approved

▶ Present 60 MLD to be augmented to 180 MLD ▶ Parched city's South West areas to get water

## Urban Development Minister chairs review meeting with MUDA, MCC

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (RK&BCT)- In a bid to augment drinking water supplies to the many parched areas of the city including areas that come under Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) and Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA), the Urban Development Department has approved the full utilisation of 180 MLD (Million Litres Per Day) of Kabini water. This is the Phase II of the project and the Phase I has already been implemented that supplies 60 MLD water every day at present. The green signal for Phase II was given by Urban Development Minister Byrathi Basavaraj who chaired a MUDA review meeting this morning. After the meeting, the Minister reviewed the progress achieved by the MCC.

The 180 MLD project will cost Rs. 150 crore. The Minister asked the Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board (KUWS&DB), the project implementing agency, to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) within a fortnight and send the same for Cabinet nod and fund release.

Over 180 MLD Kabini water is already available at Bidaragodu Jackwell, a pumping station for drawing water from Kabini River which flows close to Bidaragodu in the taluk. While pipelines have already been laid to supply 60 MLD, the same pipelines will be used to supply 180 MLD with additional pumping stations.

**New localities to get water**

The project is aimed at pumping water through Bidaragodu Jackwell to MUDA-formed localities and MUDA-approved private layouts in the South Western parts of the city.

As water from the Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) Dam alone is not enough to meet the daily water needs of Mysuru city which is growing by leaps and bounds over the years, MUDA had planned and implemented 60 MLD Kabini drinking water project. Now, with the city growing at a rapid pace in all directions, it has become essential to utilise the full capacity of 180 MLD for which Rs. 150 crore is needed, MUDA and KUWSDB officials told the Minister.

As of now, 60 MLD water is being supplied to Kuvempunagar, J.P. Nagar, Bankers Layout, Jayanagar and surrounding areas. The Phase II can supply water to MUDA and private layouts at R.T. Nagar, Vijayanagar Fourth Stage along the Ring Road, J.P. Nagar, University Layout and surrounding areas, benefiting over one lakh houses.

**(See MUDA on page 7)**

# Jal Bhavan inaugurated

Built at a cost of Rs. 18.40 crore, the four-storeyed structure to house Mysuru Division Office of KUWS&DB

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (MTY&DM)- Urban Development Minister Byrathi Basavaraj inaugurated the Jal Bhavan constructed near the Post Office at Saraswathipuram this morning.

The building is constructed by Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board (KUWS&DB) at a cost of Rs. 18.40 crore. It is a four-storeyed structure, built in Indo-Saracenic style of architecture in keeping with the city's heritage.

Speaking after inaugurating Jal Bhavan, Byrathi Basavaraj said that the building, which has a built up area of 4,441 sq.mts, will house the Mysuru Division Office of KUWS&DB, which comprises eight districts.

Pointing out that the works on the construction of the building began four years ago, the Minister asked the officials and staff to respond to the drinking water needs of the districts of the region.

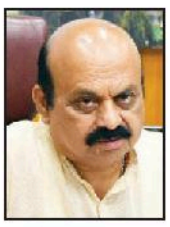
Highlighting the achievements of KUWS&DB, he wished that the Jal Bhavan becomes an inspiration for speedy execution of all drinking water and sanitation projects.

**(See JAL BHAVAN on page 7)**

## Weekend curfew

# CM Bommai holds meeting, guidelines only by evening

Bengaluru, Jan. 21 (KMS & BCT)- The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting on the COVID situation in Karnataka is now underway at 'Krishna', Chief Minister's Home Office. The Government is expected to issue fresh guidelines only by this evening. The meeting was still on when we went to press.



*Bommai*

The meeting is chaired by CM Basavaraj Bommai and is attended by Health Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar, experts and senior bureaucrats.

Before the meeting, the CM left to Tumakuru to participate in an event to mark the third anniversary of Siddaganga Seer Sri Shivakumara Swamiji. The State is observing the day as Dasoha Day.

Yesterday, the Union Health Secretary categorised Karnataka as one of the six 'States of concern' over rising COVID-19 cases. The CM's meeting with health experts was to begin at 1 pm but was delayed as he arrived late from Tumakuru. It finally began at 1.30 pm.

The revised guidelines may be issued only by today evening. CM Basavaraj Bommai had on Wednesday said that a decision on the easing of COVID restrictions in the State will be made in today's meeting.

**(See GUIDELINES on page 7)**

# STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

**Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.**

Mysuru, Friday 21st January 2022


# SC upholds Constitutional validity of OBC quota in NEET

New Delhi, Jan. 21 (UNI) - The Supreme Court (SC) on Thursday upheld the Constitutional validity of providing 27 percent reservation to Other Backward Caste (OBC) candidates in NEET AIQ (All India Quota) seats.

It also noted that the reservation was not at odd with merit instead it furthers the distributive consequences of social justice.

A two-Judge Bench headed by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud pronounced the judgement after hearing a petition challenging the reservation for OBC and Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) introduced by the Central Government in the AIQ seats of State Governments medical institutions.

"Merit should be socially contextualised. Reservation is not at odds with merit but furthers the distributive consequences (impact) of social justice," the Apex Court said in its judgement.

The Bench, also comprising Justice A.S. Bopanna, held that the Pradeep Jain verdict in 1984 cannot be read to mean no reservation in AIQ seats.

"Articles 15(4) and 15(5) are facets of substantive equality. Competitive examinations do not reflect economic social advantage which is accrued to some classes," the Top Court said.

The Apex Court on Jan. 7, passed an order upholding the reservation of 27 percent for OBCs in AIQ seats. However, on that day, the Court had not given detailed reasons for the order.

In its order it said the scheme of AIQ was devised to allot seats in State-run medical institutions.

"The Centre was not required to seek permission of this court before granting reservation in AIQ seats and thus their decision was correct. We hold that reservations for OBC in AIQ for undergraduate and post graduate courses is constitutionally valid," the Supreme Court said.

The validity of criteria for determining EWS quota will be heard at length by the Apex Court in March.

## EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

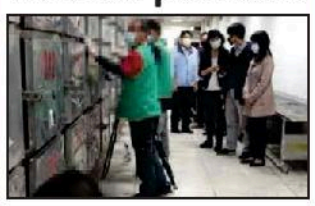
*Money for nurturing talent rarely gets funnelled to the grassroots where it is needed. Instead, it is mostly directed towards the few top athletes with international medal-winning potential. It is no surprise then that Indian parents don't see sports as a viable career option for their children. After all, that can only happen if the Government is willing to support not just the Neeraj Chopras but also those who fall short of that level of excellence. Money is also required to train coaches, support staff and advisers.*

*This is why countries like the US that are at the apex of international sports have strong sporting cultures in Universities that not just produce top-ranked athletes but also employ trainers, sports doctors and scientists. But without a similar University set-up in India, it is the Government that has to think of innovative ways to massively increase funding for sports. One model worth considering is the UK's national lottery funding for sports. If sports betting were to be legalised in India and taxed, it would yield substantial funding for creating sports talent hubs across the country. Legalised betting would also check illegal bookmaking and its link to match-fixing mafia. So, it is a win-win. And once credible sports ecosystems crop up, private investors will automatically be drawn in, making sports professionally viable.*

— *In The Times of India*

## NEWS SPARKLERS

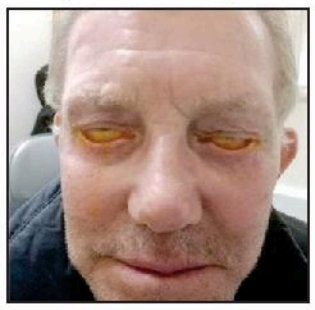
### Drunk drivers made to clean funeral parlours



Kaohsiung: Authorities at Kaohsiung city in Taiwan, have come up with an ingenious way of getting drunk drivers to reflect on their behaviour – they are now required to clean funeral parlours in order to feel what it's like being close to death.

Last month, Kaohsiung was rocked by a car accident caused by a drunk driver, which left one family man dead and three other people injured. Mayor Chen Qimai announced that those convicted of drunk driving or deferred prosecution should perform social labour service at local funeral parlours as punishment. A couple of days ago, the first batch of 11 drunk drivers went to Kaohsiung City Funeral Management Office to accept their punishment and spent hours cleaning the mortuary, refrigeration unit, and the crematorium.

### Surgery leaves man with opened eyes



England: A 79-year-old man, who underwent a series of cosmetic procedures to make himself look young found himself unable to fully close his eyes and having to tape them shut at night.

Pete Broadhurst decided to go under the knife in 2019, after the mother of his two children allegedly broke up with him over his looks. So he decided to smooth out some of the wrinkles and ended up paying 11,000 pounds for a series of plastic surgeries. But after being discharged from the hospital, he immediately knew something was wrong as he was unable to close his eyes. Pete's surgeon at the Hospital in Birmingham, England, where he had his cosmetic procedures done, arranged for a free corrective surgery at another hospital which took another four hours. But two years on, he is still unable to close his eyes completely.

## HEALTH CAPSULE

**Vitamin B6:** It supports biochemical reactions of the immune system.
**Source:** lean poultry, tuna, bananas, and chickpeas.

*By Kavya J - Department of Nutrition & Dietetics*
*Manipal Hospital, Mysore*

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

# Caning lands Tumakuru teacher in jail, gets bail

Tumakuru, Jan. 21 (UNI) - A Civil Court has sentenced a private school teacher to three years of rigorous imprisonment for beating a 7-year-old student in Tumakuru district.

The teacher, however, managed bail and was released after paying a fine of Rs. 10,000.

The verdict, which was reserved by the Third Additional Civil Judge Sharada Koppad in December last year, was delivered on Jan. 18, a statement issued by the Education Department said on Thursday.

Angered over her pupil's lackadaisical attitude towards studies, the teacher caned the student injuring his left eye. The incident took place on Feb. 17, 2011.

The girl's parents lodged a complaint with Tilak Park Police Station.

Police investigated the allegation and a charge sheet was filed before the Court.

## REALLY...?

- *Dogs sweat through their foot pads to help keep them cool. They also keep cool by panting.*
- *Greyhounds are the world's fastest dogs with the ability to reach up to 45 mph.*
- *Every dog has a unique nose print with no two alike.*
- *The Basenji, an African wolf dog, does not bark in a normal way but may yodel or scream when excited!*
- *Swallowing stones (known as 'gastroliths') is especially beneficial for crocodiles that eat their prey whole, or for tougher animals with shells and bones. A gastrolith can remain inside the stomach for years.*
- *Crocodiles have relatively weak jaw opening muscles, which can be held shut with just a rubber band, or your bare hands.*

## LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

***Tom was travelling for the first time in a plane to Mumbai.***
***While landing, he shouts*** *"Bombay, Bombay..."* ***The air-hostess tells him "Be silent."***
***Tom:*** *Ok "Ombay,Ombay"!*

## TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 US Dollar | = Rs. 74.49 |
| 1 UK Pound | = Rs. 101.22 |
| 1 UAE Dirham | = Rs. 20.28 |
| 1 Euro | = Rs. 84.39 |

## COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

| | JANUARY 19 | JANUARY 20 |
|---|---|---|
| Day's Positive Cases | 1,341 | 1,352 |
| Total Positive Cases | 1,91,803 | 1,93,155 |
| Day's Discharges | 641 | 836 |
| Total Discharges | 1,80,264 | 1,81,100 |
| Day's Deaths | 4 | 5 |
| Total Deaths | 2,442 | 2,447 |
| Total Active Cases | 9,097 | 9,608 |

*NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin*

VOICE OF THE READER

# KRS Road in dark since a month

Sir,

The KRS Road is one of the main roads of Mysuru and since more than a month street-lights are not functioning on this road. It was observed that the cable connecting the street-lights were being replaced, though earlier cable was functioning perfectly well for decades without any issues.

It appears that the contract for replacement of the cable was given without stipulating a time-frame to energise the street-lights after cable replacement.

The cable replacement work appears to be never ending. I fail to comprehend why it was not stipulated in the contract agreement to energise the street-lights segment-wise instead of waiting to complete the re-cabling of the entire stretch of KRS road.

Hope the authorities concerned will wake up and instruct the contractor to energise the stretches where the cabling has been completed and save the public from the dark KRS Road.

**—K. Chandrahas**
KRS Road, Mysuru
20.1.2022

# Calling Youth Motivators

### Interview at Chamundi Vihar Stadium on Jan. 28

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (ASC)- The Office of Assistant Director, Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports (DYES), Mysuru, has invited applications from eligible candidates to serve as Youth Motivators.

They will be appointed by Government of Karnataka, Janarogya Kendra, Epidemiology section, NIMHANS, Bengaluru, under the implementation of e-Manas Karnataka (Mental Healthcare Management System), an internet-based Karnataka State-wide digital registry of Mental Health Establishments (MHEs), Mental Health Professionals (MHPs), Person with Mental Illnesses (PwMIs) and their treatment records.

Candidates aged between 21 and 35 years, holding a degree with good communication skills, fluency in Kannada language, able to organise interactive training sessions, commute within the city and service minded are eligible to apply.

Interested candidates may walk-in for interview along with their biodata and marks card on Jan. 28 at 10.30 am at Yuva Spandana Kendra, DYES Department, Chamundi Vihar Stadium, Nazarbad, Mysuru

For details, contact Field Liaison Officer Chetan on Mob: 97319-47828 or Youth Promoter B.P. Sunil on Mob: 90088-96074, according to a press release.

# Republic Day celebration:

## Use of plastic flags banned

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (RK&DM)- With Republic Day celebrations just days away, MCC Commissioner G. Lakshmikantha Reddy has banned use of plastic flags during the celebration.

Presiding over a Republic Day preparatory meeting at the Deputy Commissioner's Office here on Thursday, Lakshmikantha Reddy directed the officials to ensure that plastic flags are not used at the Republic Day celebration to take place at Bannimantap torch-light parade grounds on Jan. 26.

Pointing out that school children should not be brought to the celebrations in the wake of COVID pandemic, he said that the celebration must be restricted to Police parade only.

Maintaining that there will be no cultural programmes, he said that the District Minister will unfurl the flag and receive the Guard of Honour from the Police. He also directed the officials for strict enforcement of COVID appropriate behaviour and to follow COVID protocol.

**National Voters Day on Jan. 25**

Continuing, Lakshmikantha Reddy said that National Voters Day will be celebrated at the MCC Auditorium at 10 am on Jan. 25, by following all COVID guidelines. Young voters who were en-rolled in the voter list will be distributed voter ID cards symbolically and the National Voters Day oath will be administered. Principal District and Sessions Court Judge M.L. Raghunath will be invited for the event, he added.

MCC Deputy Commissioner M.K. Savitha, Zilla Panchayat Deputy Secretary Prem Kumar, CAR DCP Shivaraju, Kannada and Culture Assistant Director H. Channappa and others were present at the meeting.

### Hale Unduwadi drinking water project

# Retain Rs. 563 crore original proposal, demands MP

## 'Rs. 350 crore won't serve any purpose'

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (BCT)- Funds must not be a shortage for the ambitious Rs. 563 crore Hale Unduwadi Drinking Water Project aimed at supplying drinking water to Mysuru City and 92 villages around it.

The project has already been initiated and the original funds of Rs. 563 crore must be retained instead of curtailing it to Rs. 350 crore. Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, who met BJP MLA Narasimha Nayak alias Raju Gowda, Chairman of Karnataka Urban Water Supply & Drainage Board (KUWS&DB) and requested him to implement the Hale Unduwadi project as per the original proposal at an estimated cost of Rs. 563 crore.

He requested Nayak to drop the revised Rs. 350 crore proposal as it will not serve any major purpose. "The Board should take up the original project, not the revised one," he stated. The project was launched in 2012 and Rs. 563 crore was estimated. Later, the tenders were called for a limited Rs. 350 crore. It is difficult to implement such a mega project with limited resources, the MP said.

In a press release, Pratap Simha stated that responding to his request, Raju Gowda informed him that he will take up the issue in the next Board meeting.

*Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha discussing the water project with BJP MLA and KUWS&DB Chairman Narasimha Nayak.*

Tenders for the project were floated in December 2020 and the first phase of the project is being taken up at an estimated cost of Rs. 350 crore. Once the project is implemented, the city and its neighbouring villages will get 300 Million Litres per Day (MLD) water from River Cauvery. This would be in addition to 250 MLD being supplied to the city at present. This project will get Cauvery water from KRS Dam backwaters instead of the present practice of lifting water from Canals and it is one of the biggest drinking water supply projects in South India.

## SSLC preparatory exam from Feb. 21

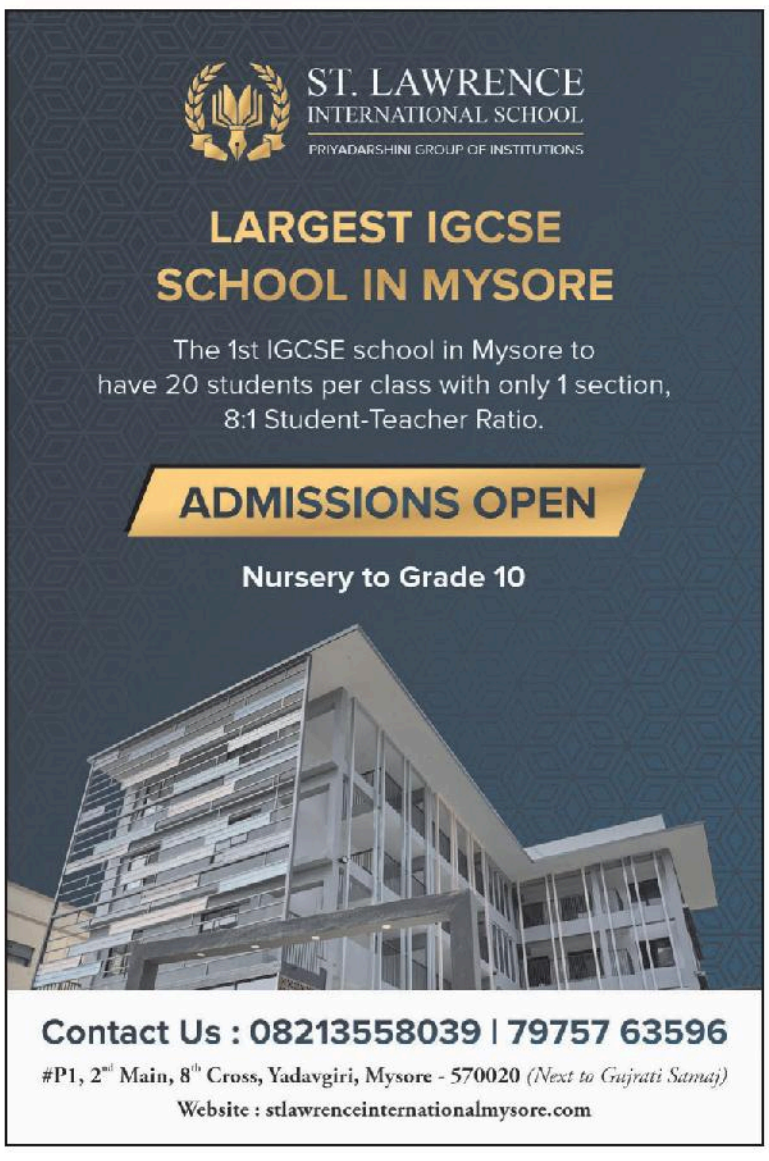
Bengaluru, Jan. 21- The preparatory exam (2021-22) for SSLC students will be held from Feb. 21 to 26. The Karnataka State Secondary Education Exam Board (KSSEEB) announced the time-table on Thursday, according to which first language exam will be held on Feb. 21; Social Science on Feb. 22; Second Language exam on Feb. 23; Maths on Feb. 24, third Language paper on Feb. 25 and Science on Feb.26.

## Teacher transfer:

### Counselling to start on Feb. 14

Bengaluru, Jan. 21- Teacher transfer counselling, which was to start on Jan. 18, will now take place from Feb. 14.

The Commissioner of Public Instruction has issued a revised schedule to this effect, according to which, the counselling for general transfer of Government Primary School teachers and Head Masters, Government High School teachers and Head Masters and others of equivalent cadre, will commence from Feb. 14. The counselling and announcement of place of posting will conclude on Feb. 28.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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Inter-State water disputes meeting

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has convened a meeting tomorrow to discuss Inter-State water disputes. Invitees to the virtual meeting include Water Resources Minister Govind Karjol, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J.C. Madhuswamy, Advocate-General Prabhuling K. Navadgi and senior advocates. The meeting is expected to discuss the Mekedatu project, pleas on which the Supreme Court is slated to hear this month.

### Free eye camp on Jan. 28

Vivekananda Kendra-Kanyakumari, Mysuru branch, has organised a free eye check-up camp at Viveka Farm, #199/3A, Hunsur Main Road, Yelwal, on Jan. 28. Dr. Chethan Kumar will conduct the camp in association with District Mobile Eye Treatment Unit, K.R. Hospital. Those in need may call Mob: 94494-88228 or 63604-26362, according to a press release.

### Phone-in Prog. on Jan. 24

Horticulture Department has organised a phone-in programme from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm on Jan. 24 to hear the grievances of farmers. Interested farmers may call Ph: 0821-2420066 and seek information related to the Department's programmes and financial assistance given by the Department, according to a press release from Deputy Director, Zilla Panchayat Horticulture Department.

## WATER LEVEL

**KRS DAM**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum | : | 124.80 feet |
| Today | : | 121.66 feet |
| Yesterday | : | 121.86 feet |
| Inflow | : | 1,222 cusecs |
| Outflow | : | 4,069 cusecs |

**KABINI DAM**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum | : | 2,284.00 feet |
| Today | : | 2,282.76 feet |
| Inflow | : | 189 cusecs |
| Outflow | : | 400 cusecs |

**HARANGI DAM**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum | : | 2,859.00 feet |
| Today | : | 2,856.36 feet |
| Inflow | : | 193 cusecs |
| Outflow | : | 50 cusecs |

# Health cards distributed to Pourakarmikas

Mysuru, Jan.21 (MTY&DM)- Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Health Officer Dr. D.G. Nagaraj launched the distribution of 'Ayushman Bharat-Arogya Karnataka Health Card' to Pourakarmikas at a programme organised at Town Hall here on Wednesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr.Nagaraj said it has been decided to distribute 'Ayushman Bharat- Arogya Karnataka Health Card' to all Pourakarmikas of the MCC. Pointing out that the health cards will be distributed to Pourakarmikas of one MCC Zone every day, he said that the MCC is committed for the welfare of Pourakarmikas.

Recalling the services of Pourakarmikas during the outbreak of COVID pandemic two years ago, he said that even now, when the third wave of attack has struck, the Pourakarmikas are doing their job as usual, striving for keeping the city clean.

Pourakarmika Association President N. Mara, office-bearers T. Srinivas, Mohan Kumar, C.R. Rachaiah and others were present.

# Vehicle-lifters arrested: Stolen vehicles worth Rs. 8 lakh recovered

Malavalli, Jan. 21 (Mohanraj& KS)- Pura Police team, led by Inspector H.T. Sunil Kumar have arrested two notorious vehicle lifters and recovered stolen vehicles worth Rs. 8 lakh from them.

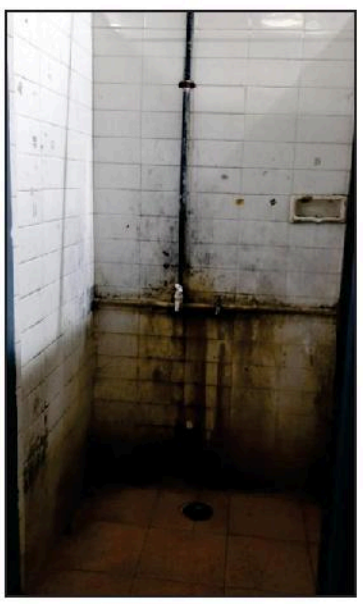
The arrested have been identified as 29-year-old Arun and Guruprasad of Malavalli. Auto drivers by profession, the duo had served jail terms in other cases and had come out. The accused had lifted various vehicles in Mysuru city, Maddur and Kollegal and had sold a few vehicles to others. Nahimtaj Azar Pasha and Manu, of Malavalli, who had bought the stolen vehicles, have also been arrested by the Police.

Addressing a press meet at the town's Police grounds on Wednesday, Mandya Superintendent of Police (SP) N. Yatish said that accused Arun and Guruprasad had lifted vehicles in Mysuru city and other places and added that 8 passenger autorickshaws, one goods auto and four two-wheelers, which they had lifted in Mysuru city and one two-wheeler, lifted in Kollegal have been recovered from them. Additional SP Venugopal, Dy.SP H. Lakshminarayan Prasad guided Pura Inspector H.T. Sunil Kumar, Sub-Inspectors Hanumanthakumar and R. Narendra Kumar, ASIs V. Nataraju and B.C. Lokesh and staff Madesh, Riyaz Pasha, Harshavardhan, Manikantaswamy, Umesh, Prakash and Beeresh in the nabbing and recovery operation.

# AAP seeks solution to end problems faced by Maharani's Hostel inmates

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (KS) - The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), Mysuru, has urged the authorities concerned to end the problems faced by the inmates of Maharani's College Hostel. Addressing a press meet at Patrakarthara Bhavan in city recently, AAP Mysuru District Unit President Malavika Gubbivani said though it has been over a month and a half since the Hostel inmates protested, the solution to end their problems was nowhere in sight.

Pointing out that after the inmates protested regarding lack of food, drinking water and other basic facility on Dec. 7, 2021 and again on Dec. 13, a team of AAP volunteers visited the hostel, she said that the plumbing problem at the entrance of the hostel was rectified by AAP with the help of donors and alleged that many problems were still pending due to the apathy of the Principal and Management of the Hostel.



AAP Media Co-ordinator G.R. Vidyaranya, Sathagalli Ward President Parthasarathy and volunteer Shashikala were present at the press meet.

## Admission to Hostels

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (SSM)- The Backward Classes Welfare Department (BCWD), Mysuru, which had invited applications from Backward Class Community students for admission to Post-Matric Boys and Girls Hostels for the academic year 2021-22, has extended the last date to Jan. 27.

Eligible boys and girls from Category-1, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B and SC/ST and OBC communities may submit applications online at *http://www.backwardclasses.kar.nic.in/*. The annual family income of Aategory-1, SC and ST community students must not exceed Rs. 2.50 lakh and Category-2A, 2B, 3A, 3B and other OBC community students must not exceed Rs. 1 lakh.

If there are any technical issues in submitting the applications, candidates may contact District or Taluk Department Officers with a set of authenticated documents. For details, contact Department Helpline: 80503-70006, according to a press release from Taluk Backward Classes Welfare Officer.

## Online admission to Adarsha Vidyalayas

Mysuru, Jan. 21- The District Institute for Education and Training (DIET), Vasanth Mahal, Mysuru, has invited online applications for admission to sixth standard in Adarsha Vidyalayas for the academic year 2022-23.

Students or parents can submit applications online *(www.schooleducation.kar.nic.in* or *www.vidyavahini.kar.gov.in)* from Jan. 24 to Feb. 9.

# Branding Mysuru as cyber security hub

## Technocrats at CII, IT/ITES Panel Annual Conference bat for a Centre of Excellence

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (BCT)- If everything goes as per plans, Mysuru is all set to become a cyber security hub in the country.

At the Annual IT Conference 2022 virtually hosted on Jan. 19 by CII Mysuru and IT/ITES Panel with the theme 'Accelerated Digital Transformation', C.N. Meena Nagaraj, Managing Director of Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS) and K-Tech spoke about starting co-working spaces in colleges, allotment of land near Nanjangud and hinting to start a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Mysuru.

Meena Nagaraj, who is also the Director, IT/BT, Government of Karnataka, spoke about Mysuru taking initiative on research grants. She said the Government would fully support a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Mysuru.

The objective of the conference was to help companies understand the impact of the accelerated digital transformation and how the Government and industry are playing their roles to use the digital transformation in the post-pandemic new normal.

*C.N. Meena Nagaraj, IAS*

Delivering the keynote address, Infosys Co-founder Kris Gopalakrishnan, who is also the past President of CII and Chairman of Axilor Ventures, spoke about branding Mysuru as the ideal location for a cyber security CoE. He emphasised on change that older companies should look into digital transformation and also briefed about how Infosys started in Mysuru and having a state-of-the-art campus.

CII Mysuru Chairman Pavan Ranga highlighted SEZ in Mysuru along with Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) and said a letter of request has been submitted to initiate an SEZ for small and medium IT/ITES companies in Mysuru along with the letters of intent from more than 12 IT/ITES companies.

### Digital technology driving business

Shaji Mathew, Head of Infosys Mysuru Development Centre, spoke about how digital technology is driving the business models of various industries.

Sanjeev Gupta, CEO and MD of LAHARI and CEO, KDEM, spoke about the initiative of the co-working space in Mysuru and about bigger companies setting shops. He said IBM has already come to Mysuru and a few more big companies are in the pipeline.

Scion of Mysore royal family Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar spoke about his Berunda Foundation and how they are teaming up with KDEM and CII for a CoE in cyber security.

### Positioning Mysuru in the global IT field

The conference also focused on the importance of positioning Mysuru in the global IT field. The CII has entered into an MoU with KDEM and as part of its Beyond Bengaluru initiative to position Mysuru as the next best destination in Karnataka, apart from Bengaluru.

Dr. R. Balasubramaniam, author and public policy advocate and Founder-Chairman, Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement, delivered a talk on the Government of India's approach to capacity building using digital technology. Incidentally, Dr. Balu is the member of Human Resources of the Capacity Building Commission of the Central Government.

Chaitanya Ramalingegowda, Founder, WakeFit, presented a talk on leveraging digital transformation in building Wakefit. Vinayak Hegde from Infosys and Mohan Ramaiah from Wipro also spoke about digital transformation.

Later, former Advisor to PMO, Government of India, Dr. M.S. Vijayaraghavan spoke about cyber security initiatives in India and mentioned how Mysuru can become a pioneer by setting up the CoE. The session on "Digital Talent for Future" was addressed by Harish Mysore, Director, India Operations, IEEE, Anand Subramanian, VP, Theorem, K.S. Sundar from Infosys and Mahesh Jambardi, COO of Excelsoft.

Rajesh Kutnikar, CEO, IT Champs Software and Dr. Navin Shankar Patel from Infosys, Convenor and Co-convenor of CII IT/ITES Panel, planned and executed this virtual event.

# Silk cluster: First instalment of Rs. 50 crore released

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (PM&BCT)- A mega silk cluster will soon be set up in 10 acres of land in Belavadi village, on the outskirts of Mysuru, at an approximate cost of Rs. 50 crore.

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha yesterday held a meeting on the speedy implementation of the ambitious project at Vikasa Soudha along with Textile Minister Shankar Patil Munekoppa.

In a press release, the MP has stated that the first instalment of the money has been released and the project has been approved under the Comprehensive Powerloom Cluster Development Scheme (CPCDS) of the Centre.

"The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 49.19 crore and the Centre will contribute 60 percent of the funds (Rs. 29.51 crore) while the State will contribute 10 percent (Rs. 10 crore) and the remaining 20 percent of the funds (Rs. 9.68) will be raised through Special Purpose Vehicle," the MP stated in the press release.

The silk clusters in Mysuru will be one of the six silk clusters to be set up across the country under the revised National Handloom Development Programme. The move was mooted in the Union Budget 2014-15 and 10.12 acres of land has been identified to set up the cluster at Belawadi.

*A graphical presentation of Mysuru Mega Silk Cluster.*

Once launched, it would be among the first of the five industry-specific clusters sanctioned for Mysuru. The Union Government has appointed the Karnataka State Textile Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (KSTIDCL) as cluster management and technical agency.

Being a labour-intensive industry, the launch of the textile cluster is expected to help generate additional employment in the region, besides fuelling the local economy by spanning ancillary industries to support the cluster.

Mysuru and its surrounding regions are known for sericulture, and the famed Mysore Silk has been accorded the Geographic Indication tag in view of its uniqueness. Similarly, the area is renowned for cotton.

Though cultivated extensively in H.D. Kote region, the bulk of it is supplied to textile units in Tamil Nadu. But once the textile cluster takes shape, local farmers will have a market closer home which will be beneficial to them as it will obviate the need for transportation.

**New Gandhi Bhavan site**

# MLA Ramdas launches compound wall works

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (RKB&KS)- Krishnaraja (KR) MLA S.A. Ramdas performed ***guddali puja*** for the construction of compound around the site meant for Gandhi Bhavan at SBM Layout in Aravindanagar here this morning.

MUDA had allotted a Civic Amenities (CA) site for the construction of Gandhi Bhavan and Rs. 25 lakh was sanctioned to the Kannada and Culture Department for the construction of compound wall around the CA site. The compound wall construction will be taken up by Nirmithi Kendra.

Speaking on the occasion, Ramdas said that more than one lakh people had laid down their lives during the freedom struggle and once Gandhi Bhavan is constructed, it will help the future generations to learn about the freedom movement because of which India got independence.

Gandhi Vichara Parishat President P. Mallesh, Secretary Samskruti Subramanya, Corporator Champaka, E. Dhananjaya and others were present on the occasion.

*MLA S.A. Ramdas performing guddali puja in city this morning.*

# Tiger census at Nagarahole from Jan. 23

## Findings to be directly documented using M-Stripes Ecological App this time

Hunsur, Jan. 21 (Raghu, Mahesh&KS)- The 5th National Tiger Census will begin from Jan. 23 at Nagarahole Tiger Reserve, said Nagarahole Tiger Reserve Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) D. Mahesh Kumar.

The National Tiger Census is held once in four years and the previous census was in 2018.

Addressing a press meet at the Forest Office in Hunsur yesterday, the DCF said that the tiger census for 2021-22 will be held in two phases from Jan. 23 to Feb. 3, with Jan. 26 being a holiday. A mock census for the staff to prepare them for the same was held today and will continue tomorrow also.

The first phase of census will be held from Jan. 23 to 25 in all 15 beats with the forest staff covering 5 kms daily. With Jan. 26 being a holiday on the occasion of Republic Day, the second phase will be held from Jan. 27 to Feb. 3 and the staff will cover all 105 beats in the reserve forest, the DCF said.

During this year's Tiger Census, along with the census of herbivorous animals and plant species, information and details of vultures, which was the theme bird during the 2019-20 Wildlife Week, would be collected.

Pointing out that for the first time, the findings during the census will not be written down using pen and paper but would be directly documented using M-Stripes Ecological App, the DCF said that this time too the census will be conducted without any volunteers. About 200 forest staff will conduct the census in Hunsur, Veeranahosahalli, Anechowkur, Metikuppe, Nagarahole, Kallahalla, Antharsanthe and D.B. Kuppe ranges.

*DCF D. Mahesh Kumar*

Stating that the 5th National Tiger Census will be conducted as per the directions from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), DCF Mahesh Kumar said that master trainers imparted training to the forest staff on documenting the census procedures through App at the programme held at Dammanakatte, Nagarahole and Mattigodu recently.

The movements, droppings, pug marks of carnivore animals like Tigers, Leopards and others will be recorded. Similarly, footprints, droppings of herbivores like Elephants, Gaur, Rabbits, Wild Boar and other animals will be studied using the guidelines and identifying them through Transact Line survey, he added.

*Forest Department personnel capturing the findings during the mock census at Nagarahole.*

*Forest staff seen discussing about the procedures to be followed at the mock census.*

# Climate change hits mango production

## This April, shell out more to relish the king of fruits

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (MK&BCT)- Summertime is synonymous with mangoes. Every year, mango trees are expected to begin flowering in December, with many unripe fruits in March or so. April and May is peak mango season.

But recently, there have been inconsistencies in the behaviour of this tree. Late flowering of the fruit and the resultant delay in harvest has hit the internal market that is worth crores of rupees. These changes in the flowering and fruiting patterns are due to climate change and unseasonal rains that lashed the mango-producing Mysuru region after October.

Compared to last year, the production will be significantly low and as a result, eating mangoes this summer will be an expensive affair. Normally, flowering begins from Jan. 15 and lasts till Feb. 15. But this year the

change in climatic conditions has disturbed the flowering cycle.

Last year too, mango yield saw steep decline due to delay in flowering. In fact, the mango production has been on the decline since 2016 due to deficit rainfall, say growers. A Technical Committee constituted by the Government Mango Board has termed 2022 as an 'off year' for the beloved fruit.

The major concern of experts is the high level of moisture in the soil, officials from the Karnataka State Mango Development and Marketing Corporation Limited (KSMDMCL) said.

Unseasonal rains have hampered the flower initiation process. Despite winter setting in in December, it was still raining in many parts due to which congenial weather conditions have not been created for the flowering process.

"Dry and cold weather is necessary for mango flowers to blossom. As this year the production is likely to be hit, growers can contact the Horticulture Department for certain measures to be followed," said K. Rudresh, Deputy Director of Horticulture Department.

According to experts, the flower initiation process begins in November-December months. Last December though good vegetative growth was observed, there is no guarantee that it will give a good yield. Maximum yield is indicated only when there is maximum flowering.

Mangoes are grown in Mysuru at Nagavala, Benkipura, Halebeedu, Bilikere, Bettadabeedu, Beerihundi, Hullahalli and other villages. The fruits arrive at Mysuru markets from Nanjangud and surrounding areas, Yelwal, Bilikere, Hura, Herale, Hullahalli, Hunsur, K.R. Nagar, H.D. Kote, Gundlupet, Chamarajanagar, Channapatna and Ramanagara. Varieties like Badami, Raspuri, Malgoa, Totapuri, Mallika, Dasheri and others have made a name.

According to the statistics available, mango is grown in over 4,500 hectares in Mysuru District as a horticulture crop. Annually, these mango-producing regions yield over 7,000 to 8,000 metric tonnes of the fruit. Statewide, the horticulture experts are forecasting a yield of about 7 to 8 lakh tonnes this year while last year, the State produced around 15 lakh tonnes of mangoes.

# Mysuru's preparedness for COVID peak assessed

## First fill Government Hospitals to avoid excessive billing by some Private Hospitals: MLAs

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (MK&BCT)- Sufficient storage and supply of medicines to cater to over 1.5 lakh patients, fund sanctioning from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), a close examination of COVID infection in children and closure of schools till the pandemic is over were some of the crucial issues that were discussed at the COVID review meeting held yesterday.

The meeting, held at D. Devaraj Urs Hall at the Zilla Panchayat Office, was chaired by Mysuru District Minister S.T. Somashekar where the elected representatives and officers discussed the daily case load in Mysuru and also the projection of the State Technical Advisory Committee that has predicted that the daily cases will increase up to 7,000 or 8,000 in the peak of the third wave after Jan. 25.

As soon as the meeting began, MLA Tanveer Sait said that of the Rs. 20 crore demanded from the NDRF, only Rs. 10 crore has been released and Rs. 4 crore has been spent. He said that there is a severe shortage of medical care equipment and also medicines and again over Rs. 20 crore will be needed to combat the pandemic.

Sait said that the voluntary organisations that had joined hands with the State Government to battle the first and second wave have not been paid money and bills are kept pending. Responding to this, MCC Commissioner Lakshmikantha Reddy said that all the necessary protocols and inspections were followed till now and money will be released immediately.

**Increased testing**

Leaders also asked the health officers to increase testing so that the actual number of positives is revealed. Tanveer Sait said that many people who have infections are heading to private hospitals and clinics where medications are given without testing.

Debunking the tall claims made by certain officers that there is no shortage of medical and paramedical staff, Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI) Dean and Director Dr. H.N. Dinesh told the meeting that the institute was facing a staff crunch as most of the staff will be in quarantine after performing certain days of duty in the wards.

Incidentally, the MMC&RI handles the administration of all the Government Hospitals that have been dedicated for COVID care. Over 120 beds have been exclusively segregated to treat pregnant women at Cheluvamba and Seth Mohandas Tulsidas Hospital, Dr. Dinesh informed the meeting.

**Priority to Government Hospitals**

Many MLAs like Tanveer Sait, L. Nagendra and Dr. Yathindra Siddharamaiah asked the authorities not to permit private hospitals to admit COVID patients and also examine how beds are reserved there. They alleged that during the first and second wave, some private hospitals were accused of excessive billing by admitting patients.

The MLAs said that first priority must be given to Government Hospitals and COVID Care Centres and only then private hospitals must be given a chance to fill patients.

Hunsur MLA H.P. Manjunath sought closure of all schools till the pandemic wore out.

Urban Development Minister Byrathi Basavaraj, MLC C.N. Manjegowda, Zilla Panchayat CEO A.M. Yogesh, District Health Officer Dr. K.H. Prasad, SP R. Chethan, DCP (Law and Order) Pradeep Gunti, MUDA Commissioner G.T. Dinesh Kumar and others were present.

# MUDA's upgraded Kabini water project approved

(Continued from page 1)

**Focus on MCC areas first**

During the meeting, MLAs Tanveer Sait and L. Nagendra demanded that first the MCC must focus on providing water supply to city areas and then focus on the outskirts. While Nagendra said that some city areas like most of Metagalli do not get water, Sait complained that many areas in his Constituency get water only once in two days.

MP Pratap Simha urged the MCC not to hike tariff for drinking water and to waive off interest accrued on the principal amount of water tax for one-time settlement of dues. He urged the Minister for the waiver of interest on the water dues. The MP said the unpaid water bills have accrued to the tune of Rs. 219 crore, including Rs. 146 crore of principal amount and Rs. 73.6 crore interest accrued on the principal amount.

Other issues that came up for discussion included MUDA's group housing scheme and a separate water board for Mysuru on the lines of Bengaluru where the Minister just said he would speak to the CM.

MLA S.A. Ramdas, Mayor Sunanda Palanetra, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, MLCs C.N. Manjegowda and K.T. Srikantegowda, MUDA Commissioner Dinesh Kumar, MCC Commissioner G. Lakshmikantha Reddy were present at the meeting.

# Jal Bhavan inaugurated

(Continued from page 1)

District Minister S.T. Somashekar, MP Pratap Simha, MLAs L. Nagendra and Tanveer Sait, Mayor Sunanda Palanetra, Chairmen of various Boards and Corporations — H.V. Rajeev, N.V. Phanish, L.R. Mahadevaswamy, Hemanth Kumar Gowda, M. Appanna — and other officials were present.

Speaking to presspersons on the sidelines of the programme, MLA Tanveer Sait, replying to a question on an online campaign urging the Congress to make him the Deputy Chief Minister if the party came to power in the State, said he came to know about the campaign only yesterday. Pointing out that the online campaign may have been voluntarily launched by his fans and supporters, Sait said that all politicians like to hold some post or the other and he too, just like others was an aspirant for a top Ministry.

Maintaining that he has worked hard for the Congress for years, Sait said there is nothing wrong in the campaign and it is but natural for a politician to aspire for power.

Coming back to the topic of Jal Bhavan, Sait that *netas* have been talking about 24x7 drinking water supply to the city, which, unfortunately, has not materialised so far.

Pointing out that agencies like VVWW and JUSCO have spent crores of rupees on executing the project, he said that, now with the inauguration of Jal Bhavan, he hopes that the 24x7 water supply project will be expedited and completed soon.

## Surabhi's online musical feature today

Mysuru, Jan. 21- Surabhi Ganakala Mandira Charitable Trust is premiering an online musical feature by Dr. Sukanya Prabhkar and team today at 6.30 pm. Interested may visit: https://youtu.be/TiBUgNRQR30. For details call Lalitha Srinivasan on Mob: 96635-82045.

# Weekend curfew guidelines by evening

(Continued from page 1)

The TAC has projected that the third wave will peak at 80,000 cases per day in the best-case scenario and the peak may go up to 1.2 lakh cases per day in the worst-case scenario. The peak is expected by the first or second week of February. This has prompted the opinion to continue restrictions, including curfews, for at least two more weeks, sources said.

However, the Chief Minister is under severe pressure not just from the affected industry segments — hospitality and trader bodies — but also from within his own party to end all forms of curfews. Many from BJP including Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, MP Pratap Simha and BJP National General Secretary C.T. Ravi has voiced their opinions batting for the end of all curfews.

With health experts endorsing the views of public and elected representatives on the need to lift curbs, it's now almost certain that the Government will do away with weekend and night curfews. Some experts are recommending to lift both weekend and night curfews and continue with curbs like 50 percent entry into public places such as restaurants and movie halls. The CM will take a final call..

# Prohibitory orders imposed around exam centre

Mysuru, Jan.21- In the wake of Commerce exam (Stenography) being conducted by Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board, the city Police have imposed prohibitory orders under Section 144 Cr.PC, in 200 mt. radius around the lone exam centre in the city — Government Higher Primary School for Girls, Ashoka road, N.R.Mohalla, between 6 am and 6 pm from Jan. 20 to 29.

Accordingly, barring the examinees and the exam staff, no other unauthorised person will be allowed to move around the exam centre. Also, all photo copy shops in the vicinity of the centre have been ordered to shut down on all days of the exam, according to a press release.

# UoM Prasaranga offers 50% discount on books

Mysuru, Jan. 21- Prasaranga, the publishing, printing and selling arm of University of Mysore (UoM), is offering 50 percent discount on books as part of Republic Day celebrations.

However, Encyclopaedias and English-Kannada Dictionaries will be sold at 25 percent discount.

Interested may visit the Prasaranga Office on Hunsur Road (opposite St. Joseph's Institutions) or the book stall near Ramaswamy Circle to purchase the books, according to a press release from Prasaranga Director.

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# Protest held for release of water to canals

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (RKB,SSM &KS)- Stating that heavy rains had resulted in crop loss during monsoon last year, farmers under the banner of State Sugarcane Growers' Association staged a protest in front of CADA Office here yesterday morning, demanding authorities to release Cauvery and Kabini water stored in reservoirs to grow summer crops.

They said that following copious rains last year, the reservoirs were full and if water is released from the reservoirs to canals in the first week of February, it would help the farmers to make up for the losses.

The protestors said that the farmers had lost 40 percent of paddy crops they had grown earlier and as the rainy season has ceased, farmers were finding it difficult to grow crops now as the canals have dried up and were also finding it difficult to provide water to their cattle or even grow summer crops to make up for the losses.

They demanded the authorities to release water to canals for the first 20 days of the month starting from February, stop for next 10 days and continue the same procedure four times which would be beneficial to farmers.

A memorandum was submitted to CADA Chief Engineer Shankaregowda in this regard. Association State President Kurubur Shanthakumar, Secretary Attahalli Devaraj, office bearers Kurubur Siddesh and others were present.

# Mazdoor Sangh stage protest for universal pension scheme

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (RKB,SSM)- The members of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), Mysuru District Committee, demanding universal pension under EPS95 scheme among others, staged a protest in front of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Office at Gayathripuram yesterday morning.

Their main demands include increase in monthly pension from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 5,000, any enhancement in EPS95 as minimum pension fixation be uniformly implemented to all pensioners, all EPS95 pensioners be brought under Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat scheme and fixation of universal pension of 50 percent of the last-drawn salary of retiring employees among others.

The protesting BMS members later submitted a memorandum to EPFO Enforcement Officers K.P. Anand and S. Narang Rao to be forwarded to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

BMS District Secretary Ravibrahma, Vice-President Harish, State Secretary Shanthakumar, other office-bearers Shivalingaiah, Satish, Mahesh, Chandra and others were present.

# Shawls, sweaters distributed

*As part of National Roadside Vendors' Day, KMPK Charitable Trust in association with Jeevadhara Blood Bank, distributed shawls and sweaters to roadside vendors at Nanjumalige in city. MUDA Member Lakshmidevi, Jeevadhara Blood Bank Director Girish, K.R. Bank Vice-President Basavaraj Basappa, Naveen Kempi, Suchendra and others were present.*

# Obituary

**Alhaj Syed Noor Hussain**

Mysuru, Jan. 21- Alhaj Syed Noor Hussain (83), Secretary of Mahboobia Shadi Mahal Managing Committee and a resident of Rajivnagar, passed away yesterday following age related illness.

He leaves behind his wife, five sons including Syed Hameed of Star Printers on Sawday Road in Mandi Mohalla and a host of relatives and friends.

Namaz-e-Janaza was held today at Masjid-e-Azam on Ashoka Road followed by the burial at the Muslim Burial Grounds near Tipu Circle.

**Puttamadappa**

Gowdarahatti Puttamadappa alias Kullappa (82), a resident of Devalapura village, passed away yesterday at the village.

He leaves behind his wife, sons D.P. Suresh and Prakash, three daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the family's farm land this afternoon.

**Manjula**

Manjula (40), a resident of Mahadevapura in the taluk, passed away following brief illness.

A spinster, she leaves behind a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed today at Devaiahnahundi Burial Grounds, according to sources.

**Sarojamma**

**Kikkeri:** Sarojamma (80), wife of late Nagappa Shastri Master and a resident of Madapura village, passed away yesterday at the village.

She leaves behind four sons including Veda Brahma Astrologer Dr. M.N. Lakshminarasimha Swamy, Brashtachara Virodhi Ranga State Unit Founder-Secretary Subbanna, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed near Sanyasi Mantapa in the village yesterday.

**Kempaiah**

**Bharatinagar:** S.I. Honnalagere Kempaiah (76), retired employee of Chandupura Government PU College, passed away yesterday.

He leaves behind his wife Puttamma, one daughter, three sons and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at his native place this morning.

**Nanjegowda**

**K.R. Pet:** Nanjegowda (86), a paddy trader and a resident of Chinnenahalli village of Kikkeri hobli in the taluk, passed away yesterday at the village.

He leaves behind his wife Sannananjamma, son Thammannagowda, five daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Chinnenahalli this morning.

**Premaleela**

**Periyapatna:** Premaleela (60), wife of P.M. Prabhuswamy and a resident of Dodda Beedhi in the town, passed away following a heart attack.

She leaves behind her husband, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Veerashaiva Burial Grounds in the town yesterday evening.

**Ex-Serviceman Vedanand**

**Kollegal:** Victor Vedanand (77), an ex-serviceman and a resident of Hosa Hampapura in the taluk, passed away on Wednesday at the village.

He leaves behind his wife, one son, one daughter, brother Selvaraj, former President of Town Municipal Council and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral was held at the Christian Cemetery at Kollegal yesterday evening.

# Man commits suicide

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (RK&KS)- A 52-year-old man, said to be depressed in life, committed suicide by hanging self at his room in Krishnamurthypuram here yesterday noon.

The deceased has been identified as M.S. Nagaraju, son of late N. Siddegowda, a resident of Kuvempunagar. Nagaraju, who was rearing cows and supplying milk was staying in a room at Krishnamurthypuram.

Lakshmipuram Sub-Inspector B.S. Bandi and staff, who rushed to the spot, conducted mahazar, during which a death note stating "I am responsible for my death" was found. Lakshmipuram Police, who have registered a case, are investigating.

# Gokulam gets Welcome Arch

Mysuru, Jan. 21 (RK&DM)- Decades after it was formed, the city's Gokulam locality got a welcome arch on Tuesday, with the erection of an arch opposite the ESI Hospital on KRS road.

The arch has been erected at the start of the road that shoots off from KRS road towards Doctors Corner and culminates at Ganapathi temple junction on Contour Road. While the writing on one side of the arch reads 'Welcome to Gokulam', the other side reads 'Thank You'.

The welcome arch has been installed at a cost of Rs. 6.35 lakh and is 24 ft. in height. The arch has gold plated writings.

Area Corporator S.B.M. Manju said that the arch works was executed by contractor Nagesh and the installation has enhanced the beauty of the locality. Pointing out that sanction has been given for erection of a similar welcome arch for Brindavan locality near Basava Stone Statue opposite the PKTB Hospital on KRS Road, he said that the works will be taken up after the tender process is completed.

An arch has already been installed at Kumbarakoppal Toll Gate Circle and Metagalli junction, also on KRS Road, he said and added that once the Brindavan arch is erected, the KRS Road will have four welcome arches.

Three years ago, Vontikoppal, one of the oldest localities of the city, got a welcome arch near Cheluvamba Park.

## Ailing elephant dies at Hediyala

Nanjangud, Jan. 21 (Ravi&KS) - A seriously ill elephant, which was being provided treatment by the Forest Department, died in the agricultural field near Kudure Hundi Halla check dam on the outskirts of Hediyala village on Wednesday.

The 50-year-old female elephant, which had entered the agricultural field in search of food and water, had collapsed on the field. The Forest Department officials, who rushed to the spot, were providing treatment. Despite Department Veterinarian Dr. Wasim treating it for the entire day on Tuesday, the elephant failed to recover and breathed its last.

The Forest Department officials suspected that the elephant may have been suffering from age related ailments. The dead elephant was buried in the same spot where it had collapsed and the Forest officials said that the exact reason for the elephant's death would be known only after receiving the post-mortem report.

Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) Ravikumar, Hediyala Range Forest Officer (RFO) Manjunath, Nugu RFO Geetha and others were present.

## Roadkill in Gundlupet

Gundlupet, Jan. 21 (SOMG)- A deer that was crossing the road was killed on the spot when a tipper vehicle rammed into it in front of the Post Office on National Highway on Tuesday night.

Residents, who heard the sound, rushed to the spot but the tipper driver had already sped away. RFO Dr. Lokesh, DRFO Muthuraj and staff arrived at the spot, took custody of the deer carcass and have launched a hunt to trace the tipper vehicle.

It is to be noted that the residents of Gundlupet had complained to the Police about speeding tipper vehicles on the main road, which was resulting in such frequent accidents.

Though the Police conducted checking of vehicles initially after receiving complaints, the Cops later reduced the frequency of checking which has again resulted in tipper vehicles moving at neck-breaking speed on the main road.

### Advocate claims IPS Officer Ravi Channannavar had 78 acres of benami land

# Former Mayor demands apology from lawyer

*Ravi*

Mysuru, Jan.21 (GA&DM)- Accusing city advocate Jagadish of making baseless charges against IPS Officer Ravi D. Channannavar on social media posts, former Mysuru Mayor Purushotham has sought an apology from the advocate.

Addressing a press meet at Jaladarshini Guest House here on Wednesday, Purushotham said that Ravi had served as Mysuru SP about six years ago. Pointing out that Ravi, who came from a poor family, had worked hard to become an IPS Officer, Purushotham alleged that the advocate was making baseless charges that the IPS Officer had bought 78 acres of land in H.D. Kote taluk under a benami transaction. But this allegation is baseless as there are no supporting documents for the advocate to prove his claim, Purushotham said and sought an apology from advocate Jagadish.

He warned of legal action against the advocate if he does not stop making false and baseless charges against the IPS Officer.

Karnataka Rajya Nayakara Yuvasene President Devaraj Katur, who also addressed the press meet, said that farmer leaders Kumaraswamy and Umesh were misleading the advocate. Pointing out that the Yuvasene plans to lodge a complaint against the two farmer leaders at H.D.Kote, he warned of legal action if Jagadish continues with his baseless allegations.

Members of various Dalit organisations, Valmiki associations, advocates belonging to Dalit community and others were present.

## MLA launches development works at Yadavagiri Government School

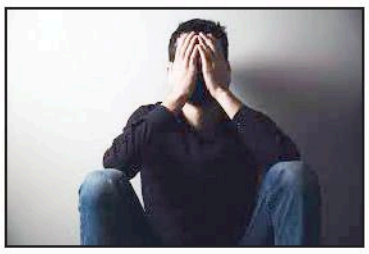
Mysuru, Jan. 21 (RK&DM)- Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra on Thursday performed *guddali puja* for various developmental works at the Government School near Railway Choultry in Yadavagiri.

Speaking on the occasion, Nagendra said that development works costing Rs.31.17 lakh has been taken up at the school with funds provided by the city-based KSOU. Pointing out that he has also ensured KSOU funding for development of Devaraja Mohalla D. Devaraj Urs PU College (Rs.1 crore), Metagalli Government School (Rs.1 crore), Kumbarakoppal Government School (Rs. 24.93 lakh) and Kuvempu Trust School in Vijayanagar First Stage (Rs. 22.09 lakh), the MLA said that some of those who studied at Yadavagiri School have taken up top positions in the society. Nagendra said he will do his best for developing such old schools.

Corporators SBM Manju and Ravindra, KSOU Registrar Prof. R. Rajanna, DDPI Ramachandraraje Urs, leaders Somashekar Raj, Dinesh Gowda, Kumar Gowda, Mahesh, L. Manjunath and others were present.

## WORD OF THE DAY

### Debilitating



**Pronunciation:** dih-BILL-uh-tay-ting.
**Meaning:** Debilitating means "causing serious impairment of strength or ability to function."
**Origin:** The verb debilitate (and its adjective form debilitating) comes from the Latin word for "weak," debilis. Often used of disease—as in, "the patient was debilitated"—it can also suggest something that strikes like a disease or illness, "the actor was debilitated by stage fright." In sum, the word suggests a temporary impairment or a condition of weakness and helplessness.
**Example:** "Smartphone addiction is a real thing, and it can be really debilitating. This rings even more true in the context of the global pandemic when millions upon millions of people are basically stuck at home with nothing else to do." — RJ Pierce

## THE ODD WORD

**Deadstock**

Farm equipment.

## PHRASE OF THE DAY

### To fall off the wagon

**Meaning:** This phrase 'To fall off the wagon' is usually said on a recovering alcoholic, which means that someone has returned to drinking alcohol after a passé of abstinence.
**Origin:** This phrase was first recorded in, Alice Caldwell Rice's Mrs. Wiggs of the Caggage Patch [1901], where the Mr. Dick says it to old Mrs. Wiggs.
**Example:** "Anna hadn't had a beverage in a decade, but when her husband of eleven years left her, she fell off the wagon again."

## QUOTE BOX

If you don't fall off the wagon regularly, you're not playing a big enough game.—**David Allen**

## RIDDLE THIS

You see a boat filled with people. It has not sunk, but when you look again you don't see a single person on the boat. Why?

*Answer: All the people were married.*

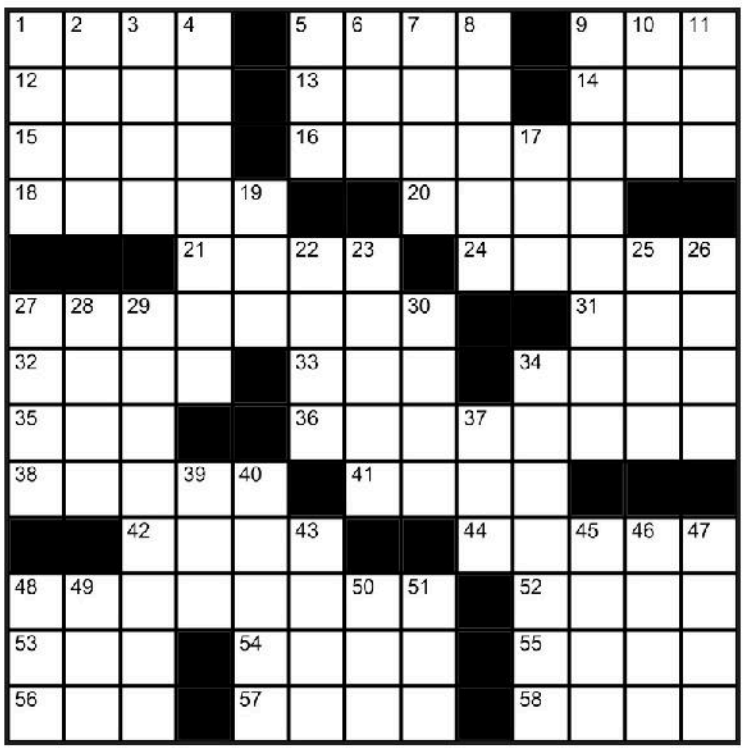
## CROSS WORD

**ACROSS:**
1 Pear variety
5 Follow or dog?
9 Pulse Repetition Frequency
12 Ancient Indian from South American
13 Counterflow
14 Aussie tennis legend ___ Emerson
15 Winglike
16 Compulsion by force or duress
18 Fawlty's wife - "By Lis" anagram?
20 Architect Saarinen
21 Venomous South African viper
24 One Middle East nation
27 Extinct reptile
31 Aliens?
32 Jacob's brother
33 Elected rep.
34 Greek peak
35 Latitude, abbr.
36 Factional
38 Recumbent
41 Scottish Highlander
42 Lubricates
44 Larry ___ : well-known har monica player
48 Competitions
52 Very scarce
53 Lyricist Gershwin
54 ___ Noire : person or thing one particularly dislikes?
55 Hebridean isle - "suit" anagram ?
56 Israel's __ Aviv
57 Being in Latin
58 TV's talking horse (2,2)

**YESTERDAY'S ANSWER**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | A | N | ■ | E | D | I | T | ■ | A | N | T | S |
| I | L | A | ■ | D | Y | N | E | ■ | F | A | R | O |
| S | P | I | T | E | F | U | L | ■ | I | V | O | R |
| ■ | ■ | L | I | N | E | R | ■ | C | R | Y | P | T |
| S | O | D | A | ■ | D | E | F | O | E | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| A | G | O | R | A | ■ | D | E | V | ■ | C | E | S |
| R | E | W | A | R | D | ■ | D | E | P | O | R | T |
| K | E | N | ■ | R | A | H | ■ | N | Y | A | S | A |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | S | O | D | A | S | ■ | G | R | E | G |
| S | T | R | A | W | ■ | R | O | A | M | S | ■ | ■ |
| L | A | I | C | ■ | L | E | A | P | Y | F | A | R |
| A | M | O | K | ■ | A | M | R | E | ■ | S | T | D |
| V | E | T | S | ■ | U | S | S | R | ■ | T | R | I |

**DOWN**
1 Predisposition or prejudice
2 Just the one
3 Crust formed over wound in healing
4 Reindeer
5 Gumshoe or investigator
6 Stir or tumult
7 ___ fixe : an obsession ?
8 Stringed instruments
9 A nun in a high position
10 Marsupial (colloq).
11 Danish island
17 Weep or sob
19 French article
22 Inclined passage
23 One of the USSR's prison camps
25 "__ _ Wonderful Life" (3,1)
26 __ __ example : e.g.? (2,2)
27 Small valley
28 English exclamation (1,3)
29 ___ Anthem : Jana Gana Mana..... for us?
30 ___ avis : the rare mythical bird?
34 Crude barrel (3,4)
37 Afternoon meal
39 The egg of a parasitic insect, esp. of a louse
40 Land attached to clergyman's benefice
43 Nav. readings
45 Den
46 Irish
47 "Retired" in short ?
48 Op. __
49 Metal-bearing mineral
50 Time To Station, abbr.
51 ___ red : become suddenly angry or enraged?



## SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8 | | 3 | | | | | |
| 2 | | 4 | | 1 | | | | |
| | 7 | | | | | | 9 | |
| | | 2 | 8 | | 1 | 9 | | |
| | | 5 | | 7 | | 3 | | |
| | | 7 | 4 | | 2 | 8 | | |
| | 1 | | | | | | 6 | |
| | | | | 8 | | 7 | | 1 |
| | | | | | 6 | | 3 | |

Answer to previous puzzle

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 6 |
| 2 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 2 |
| 8 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| 7 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| 3 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 1 |
| 6 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| 5 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 7 |

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

## CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**CJ ITX FBO NFQFKZO QOTQZO FBO**

**EFQQI GT QZFI HCGE ITX.**

**TODAY'S CLUE: Q EQUALS P**

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** To flatter and follow others, without being flattered and followed in turn, is but a state of half enjoyment.

# Vid. Ashwath Narayan and troupe enthral audience at Heritage Music Festival

*Vidwan Ashwath Narayan presenting a vocal recital at 8th Cross, V. V. Mohalla, last evening (Jan. 20) as part of the 60th Heritage Music Festival organised by Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust. He is accompanied by Vid. Vaibhav Ramani on violin, Vid. Vijay Natesan on mridanga and Vid. Anoor Sunaad on khanjira. Today (Jan. 21) at 6.15 pm, Vid. Heramba and Vid. Hemantha presents a flute duet recital accompanied by Vid. Sumanth Manjunath on violin, B. S. Prshanth on mridanga and Vid. M. R. Manjunath on ghata. Picture right shows a section of music- lovers at 8th Cross Pandal yesterday.* [Only those who have taken two doses of COVID vaccine can attend the event]

## NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

**Padma Theatre** Ph: 2521923
*Viswasam (Ta)* - 4 Shows

**Woodlands Theatre** Ph: 2422871
*Badava Rascal (K)*- 4 Shows

### DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422, 4241800

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Hridayam (Ma)* | (S-1) | 9.55 am, 6.55 pm |
| | (S-4) | 3.40 pm |
| *Spiderman: No Way Home (3D-E)* | (S-1) | 1.10 pm, 4.00 pm |
| *Badava Rascal (K)* | (S-2) | 10.45 am, 1.25 pm, 4.10 pm |
| | (S-3) | 7.00 pm |
| *83 (H)* | (S-2) | 6.55 pm |
| *Raajakumara (K)* | (S-3) | 10.05 am, 1.05 pm, 4.05 pm |
| | (S-4) | 6.55 pm |

### INOX LIVE THE MOVIE Ph: 2533444 / 2533456

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Hridayam (Ma)* | (S-1) | 5.50 pm |
| | (S-2) | 1.15 pm, 4.55 pm |
| | (S-4) | 10.30 am |
| *Badava Rascal (K)* | (S-2) | 10.15 am |
| | (S-3) | 2.35 pm |
| *83 (H)* | (S-3) | 11.00 am, 5.40 pm |
| *Spiderman: No Way Home (3D-E)* | (S-1) | 11.00 am, 2.25 pm |
| *Pushpa - The Rise Part 1 (Te)* | (S-4) | 2.10 pm |
| *Bangarraju (Te)* | (S-4) | 6.00 pm |

### PVR CINEMAS

**Forum Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Spider-Man: No Way Home (E-3D)* | : | 11.40 am |
| *Badava Rascal (K)* | : | 12.15 pm, 6.40 pm |
| *Bangarraju (Te)* | : | 2.50 pm |
| *Hridayam (Ma)* | : | 3.05 pm |
| *83 (H)* | : | 6.10 pm |

**1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Badava Rascal (K)* | : | 1 pm, 3.50 pm, 6.40 pm |
| *Bangarraju (Te)* | : | 11 am |
| *Hridayam (Ma)* | : | 5.50 pm |
| *Pushpa: The Rise - Part 1(K)* | : | 2.20 pm |

**NOTE:** Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here.

# G.B. Saragur School girl bags second place in National Kalotsava

*Bhavya with her Art teacher K. Sangeetha.*

Mysuru, Jan. 21- Bhavya, a student of G.B. Saragur Government High School in H.D. Kote taluk of the district, has bagged the second place in 3-D Visual arts category at the National Kalotsava contest organised virtually by NCERT.

In the wake of COVID-19, the contest was held virtually from Jan.1 to 12 at Bengaluru's DSERT, which was watched by judges of the event. The result was announced on Jan.18.

Bhavya, a 9th standard student of G.B. Saragur Government High School bagged the second place in 3-D Visual arts category while Srigowri, a II PU student of Bengaluru's Vijaya Composite PU College bagged the third spot in Classical Music and Srushti Suresh, a 9th standard student of St. Joseph's High school in Dharwad district secured the first place in Classical Music Instrument.

*Bhavya*

Bhavya, who had created a mask of Somana Kunitha folk dance, had bagged the first place at the State-level Kalotsava held last month. She had created the model by using bamboo, cotton fabric and paper under the guidance of art teacher K. Sangeetha.

Last year, Chandana, also a student of G.B. Saragur Government High School, who trained under the School's arts teacher K. Sangeetha, had won a prize. Now Bhavya, has brought laurels to the School and Mysuru district by bagging the second place at the National event.

School Head Mistress Shobha has congratulated Bhavya for her achievement.

## PRO KABADDI

**Today's Matches (JAN. 21)**

Dabang Delhi Vs Haryana Steelers 7.30 pm

Bengal Warriors Vs UP Yoddha 8.30 pm

**Tomorrow's Matches (JAN. 22)**

Patna Pirates Vs Puneri Paltan 7.30 pm

U Mumba Vs Telugu Titans 8.30 pm

Pink Panthers Vs Tamil Thalaivas 9.30 pm

**Yesterday's Results**

Tamil Thalaivas 35
Lose to
Gujarat Giants 37

Bengaluru Bulls 39
Lose to
Bengal Warriors 40

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The public in general is hereby informed that my client is Sri. A. Govinda Raj,S/o.K.N.A. Reddy aged about 45 years, resident of # 43, B2, SFS Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru-64 is the sole owner in possession and enjoyment of the property mentioned in the Schedule to this notice. It has come to the knowledge of my client that certain persons projecting themselves as owners are trying to meddle with the property mentioned hereunder that of my client. The members of General Public are hereby called upon not to fall prey to such transactions and not to deal with the Schedule Property with anyone. Also the schedule property that of my client is not for sale.

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- ವಿದ್ಯಾ ಸಾಲ
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